



# Special Report

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November 5, 2009

Available Online: [dpc.senate.gov](http://dpc.senate.gov)

## **The Recovery Act: Creating Jobs and Making a Difference in Tennessee**

Earlier this year, the Democratic Congress worked with President Obama to enact the *American Recovery and Reinvestment Act* (the *Recovery Act*) in an effort to rescue, rebuild, and strengthen our struggling national economy. Eight years of failed fiscal policies and misguided economic priorities had left our national economy on the brink of disaster, and now – only nine months later – our economy is on the brink of recovery. The *Recovery Act* and the efforts of American businesses and workers, like those in Tennessee, made this progress possible.

Despite this encouraging news, Democrats know that many Tennesseans are still struggling, and unemployment – a lagging economic indicator – remains far too high. In response, Democrats are working to create and save millions of jobs with *Recovery Act* dollars and tax relief. Already, with more than half of the dollars yet to be spent, the recovery package has provided for more than one million jobs and the rate of job loss has slowed significantly. As we look toward the future, Democrats believe that the *Recovery Act*, combined with the American work ethic and ingenuity, will continue to make a difference for families in Tennessee and will deliver on its promise to rebuild our economy and get Tennesseans back to work.

### ***The Recovery Act is Creating Jobs and Making a Difference***

Last week, the White House announced that certain recipients of *Recovery Act* funds have reported the creation of 640,329 direct jobs. About 325,000 of these jobs are in education and over 80,000 are in construction. These numbers, however, represent only about 16 percent of expenditures through September 30 and do not reflect the majority of *Recovery Act* funding to date, which has gone directly to individuals and states, including:

- Tax relief for businesses and working families;
- Small business loans, which are exempt from reporting;
- The first-time homebuyer tax credit;
- Direct federal aid, including \$250 direct stimulus checks, enhanced unemployment benefits, increased food stamp benefits for vulnerable families; and
- State fiscal relief, which prevented job cuts at the state and local government level.

Moreover, the reported data does not capture indirect or induced jobs created when prime contractors hire suppliers or other companies to complete projects or when newly employed workers spend their pay checks. It is estimated that, if included, indirect jobs would add

another 50 percent or more to the direct jobs numbers and induced jobs would add an additional 36 percent. [Office of the Vice President, [10/30/09](#); CBPP, [10/28/09](#)]

Taken as a whole, the reported data confirms earlier estimates that the *Recovery Act* would create or save over one million jobs by now, even though less than half of the *Recovery Act* funds have been put to work. [Office of the Vice President, [10/30/09](#)]

Moreover, without the *Recovery Act*, economists believe that the economy and the unemployment rate would be much worse.

- According to Congressional Budget Office (CBO) projections, “The effect of the stimulus legislation on the level of economic activity will probably build during the second half of 2009 [and] have its maximum impact in the first half of 2010... CBO estimates that real GDP will be 1.4 percent to 3.8 percent higher in the fourth quarter of 2009 than it would have been without the stimulus, 1.1 percent to 3.4 percent higher in the fourth quarter of 2010, 0.4 percent to 1.2 percent higher in the fourth quarter of 2011, and zero to 0.3 percent higher by the fourth quarter of 2013.” [CBO, [8/09](#)]
- These estimates were bolstered by third quarter growth when, for the first time in more than a year, the economy expanded, and, at 3.5 percent, it expanded faster than expected. [*Wall Street Journal*, [10/29/09](#)]
- According to economist Mark Zandi, “The research of Moody’s Economy.com suggests that a million fewer jobs would exist today, while the unemployment rate would already have risen well into double digits.” [Testimony before the Joint Economic Committee, [10/29/09](#)]

## ***The Recovery Act is Creating Jobs and Making a Difference in Tennessee***

In Tennessee, this partial reporting indicates that 9,548 jobs have been created or saved by funding 1,252 awards worth \$3,753,201,686, of which \$340,761,909 has already been received. [Recovery, Accountability, and Transparency Board, accessed [11/2/09](#)]

Similar to the national number, this validates the White House’s earlier estimates that the *Recovery Act* is responsible for saving or creating 20,000 jobs so far for Tennesseans (accounting for indirect and induced jobs). [Council of Economic Advisors, [9/2009](#)] **Tennessee is on track to benefit from a total of 70,000 *Recovery Act* jobs.** [The White House, [2/2009](#)]

These numbers alone cannot adequately convey the human impact of the jobs that are supported by the *Recovery Act* – the real-life stories of local companies that can hire new employees, workers who are no longer faced with uncertainty, and families that no longer need to struggle to pay their bills. The following is a sampling of some of the local *Recovery Act* success stories in Tennessee:

**Franklin, Tennessee will use *Recovery Act* funding to help advance drinking water and wastewater infrastructure improvements, allowing for the expansion of recycled water distribution lines.** “Franklin will get \$5.65 million in low-interest loans to help in repairing the city’s leaking water reservoir and bringing sewer service to homeowners on septic systems. Gov. Phil Bredesen and Department of Environment and Conservation Commissioner Jim Fyke made the announcement Monday. The loans are funded through a combination of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 and the State Revolving

Fund loan program. Franklin will receive \$3.15 million for the expansion of recycled water distribution lines on Downs Boulevard and continuing west, as well as collection system expansion in the Boyd Mill Pike, Country Road and Simmons Ridge areas... The federal money would reduce the homeowners' costs by around 40 percent. The city also will receive \$2.5 million for improvements to its raw water reservoir, which has been leaking. Upgrades to the water reservoir will ensure continuous reliable source water for Franklin's drinking water treatment plant." [*The Tennessean*, 10/26/09]

**As unemployment rate dipped in September in Tennessee, the state's *Recovery Act*-funded computer "job lab" for job hunting and resume building helped 80 residents in their search.** "New figures show that 73 of Tennessee's 95 counties had double-digit unemployment rates in September, a slight improvement from August when 82 counties were at 10 percent or higher... People are saying the recession is over, but for little people like us, it's going to take a while before we see it," said Ivey, who has part-time work but needs a full-time job to make ends meet. He is among more than 80 people who have revamped their resumes and searched for online jobs at the library's job lab, which opened with federal stimulus funds on Oct. 5 as a joint effort by the Nashville Public Library and the Nashville Career Advancement Center. Although all branches have computers for public use, the 10 laptops are dedicated for job hunters... There have been some success stories, including one woman who got hired at Mapco and another landing a job interview at a bank despite limited work experience. The lab will move every six months to other branches, said Pam Reese, the library's Web and public education administrator. Will Robinson, 50, said Williams improved his resume and helped him write a cover letter, and he's more confident than ever about handing them out." [*The Tennessean*, 10/23/09]

**Tennessee won a *Recovery Act* grant to establish a Haywood County solar farm and Knoxville solar research institute.** "Tennessee won federal approval Tuesday for the \$62.5 million economic stimulus grant it applied for in May for a solar power demonstration 'farm' in Haywood County and a solar research institute at the University of Tennessee's Knoxville campus... The solar farm, which will be operated by Genera Energy, a not-for-profit arm of UT, is to get \$31 million, and the solar institute the remaining \$31.5 million... The solar farm also would contain an educational and visitors center immediately off I-40 that [Governor Phil] Bredesen said he hopes will encourage school children to pursue their education in science, much as he said Sputnik helped fuel his pursuit of a Harvard degree in physics." [*The Commercial Appeal*, 9/16/09]

**Great Smoky Mountains National Park is hiring day-labor workers for *Recovery Act*-funded park projects.** "Officials at Great Smoky Mountains National Park say they expect to award the first round of contracts by late August to improve the Park's facilities using the \$64 million that the Smokies is receiving under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA)... According to the Park's Deputy Superintendent, Kevin FitzGerald, 'The projects that can be accomplished using day-labor workers. The projects that can be accomplished using day-labor workers is funded at \$1.2 million and is already underway. Work is on-going to make improvements to ten different trails and over 60 historic cemeteries.'" [*Blount Today*, 9/16/09]

**EmergeMemphis will use *Recovery Act* grant to help growing companies, expected to create over 75 jobs.** "The U.S. Department of Commerce's Economic Development Administration has approved a \$500,000 grant from stimulus funds to renovate and expand the EmergeMemphis incubator. The project will allow the incubator to accommodate another 10 to 14 early stage, high-growth companies. This should result in the creation of more than 75 jobs, said Gwin Scott, president of EmergeMemphis. The project has been in the planning stages in

recent years, and the award of the grant will allow EmergeMemphis to move forward with the expansion.” [Memphis Daily News, 9/10/09]

**Construction crews broke ground on a project to repave roads, improve handicap access, and build new restrooms at Cosby Campground.** “Construction crews broke ground at Cosby Campground on Tuesday as part of the first phase of \$64 million worth of federal stimulus funded projects in the Great Smoky Mountains National Park. The park closed the Cosby Campground two months early to allow crews to repave all of the roads and parking pads. ‘This campground has needed resurfacing for a pretty long time,’ said Bill Burns, superintendent of paving construction for Blalock & Sons Construction. ‘The last time it was paved was in 1961, and it is pretty rough.’... Park officials said the campground and other construction projects would still be on the backburner without the injection of funds from the federal stimulus package. In addition to filling the holes at Cosby Campground, the initial phase of stimulus projects will breathe new life into trails and cemeteries, build new restrooms and improve handicap access.” [WBIR, 9/9/09]

**Memphis area small energy auditing company has seen uptick in business and hired more engineers, thanks to Recovery Act incentives for energy efficiency.** “Energy audits are nothing new for Allen & Hoshall, the locally owned engineering firm whose roots date back almost 100 years. As early as the 1970s, the Memphis-based company worked with the Tennessee Valley Authority on energy-related projects, and by the mid-1980s it was consulting U.S. Embassies around the world about their energy usage, helping them find ways to shrink their carbon footprints. Business has continued to grow, and since the beginning of the green movement the firm has performed energy audits on 61 million square feet of buildings worldwide... a recent increase in energy audits – sparked by the stimulus act, which sent money to state and local governments for improvements in sustainability – has been a boon for engineering firms despite the overall economic slowdown. The rise of energy audits has even allowed Allen & Hoshall to add specialty positions such as mechanical engineers to its staff while upholding a healthy workload.” [Memphis Daily News, 9/4/09]

**At Vanderbilt University, Recovery Act money from the NIH has created 35 jobs and will fund at least 79 research projects.** “Middle Tennessee's biomedical researchers are getting a two-year financial boost as they seek cures for HIV, autism and cancer. More than \$37 million in federal stimulus money is flowing into the state through the National Institutes of Health. Vanderbilt University claimed the most in the first year — \$22 million for research and job creation, compared with \$1.8 million for Meharry Medical College and the same for Middle Tennessee State University... But Meharry graduate student Ebony M. Coleman, who is spending 70 hours a week researching a cure for HIV, said the cash infusion was just what she needed to keep going. Her study, which tracks cholesterol's role in allowing HIV cells to replicate, is one of 152 research projects in the state getting help. ... Vanderbilt researchers just got their funding in hand and many have yet to hire, though 35 jobs have been created. At least 79 stimulus-funded research projects will happen there through July 2011.” [The Tennessean, 8/31/09]

**Recovery Act funds will be used to dredge the Northwest Tennessee Regional Harbor, resurface a federal levee, and repair flood control structures.** “Federal stimulus funds will be used to dredge the Northwest Tennessee Regional Harbor, to resurface the federal levee in Lake County and more. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers in Memphis expects to receive \$98 million from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act in a two-year period. ‘We are taking that money and getting it out to the projects today,’ Col. Thomas Smith said Monday. Smith, commander of the Corps' Memphis District, outlined stimulus plans during the Mississippi River Commission's annual low-water inspection tour. The commission held a



public hearing aboard the M.V. Mississippi on Monday in Tiptonville. Smith showed a map indicating that \$13.9 million of the stimulus funds will be spent in Tennessee.” [Dyersburg State Gazette, 8/24/09]

**275 people will be employed by Recovery Act-funded project to prepare building for demolition.** “DOE officials say American Recovery and Reinvestment Act funding has helped get work under way to prepare the East Tennessee Technology Park's former K-27 gaseous diffusion building for demolition. The East Tennessee Technology Park, or ETTP, was formerly known as the K-25 Site... ‘DOE was ready to do this work and the Recovery Act has given us the opportunity to accelerate the project,’ Gerald Boyd, manager of the U.S. Department of Energy's Oak Ridge Office, stated in a release. ‘This funding will help us to continue our momentum in demolishing old facilities, so the entire East Tennessee Technology Park site may be transitioned to a private sector industrial park.’ Environmental Management contractor Bechtel Jacobs Co. estimates the K-27 Building Project will employ between 225 and 275 employees for most of the project, which will be completed by September 2011. Currently, about 75 people are working on initial preparations, which includes installing power and lights in the building, setting up construction trailers, and developing procedures.” [The Oak Ridger, 8/20/09]

**Battery company will spend Recovery Act-funded grant to test recharging stations in Tennessee.** “The largest of the \$2.4 billion in DOE grants went to manufacturers in Indiana and Michigan. Also among the projects, Phoenix-based Electric Transportation Engineering Corp. will install 12,500 recharging stations in five test markets in Arizona, California, Oregon, Tennessee and Washington.” [WVNS Channel 28 News, 8/16/09]

**Murfreesboro using Recovery Act to pay for many transportation improvements, such as repaving roads, creating bicycle trails, and buying new cameras.** “Murfreesboro bicyclists and motorists will enjoy transportation upgrades thanks to federal stimulus funding that will pay for the \$1.6 million projects. The Murfreesboro City Council approved using the money Thursday to buy new traffic cameras, repave North Thompson Lane and add a bike lane and missing sections of sidewalk, Transportation Director Dana Richardson said. ‘The repaving project will benefit the city by replacing paving that is approximately 16 years old,’ Richardson said. ‘What would normally be a project funded by the city will now be federally funded, thus allowing the local funding that would be generally necessary to fund this project to be used on other needed city resurfacing projects.’ The federal transportation funding will be handled through city contracts with the Tennessee Department of Transportation. The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act will provide \$625,000 for repaving Thompson Lane from Northwest Broad Street to Old Fort Parkway.” [Tennessean, 8/14/09]

**Knoxville Symphony Orchestra received a Recovery Act-funded grant for job retention.** “The Knoxville Symphony Orchestra has received a \$25,000 federal grant from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act. The grant, awarded by the National Endowment for the Arts, will cover one of the core orchestra positions. The KSO was one of 64 orchestras to receive funding from the ARRA totaling \$2.6 million dollars out of the \$50 million allotted to the NEA. The orchestras of Nashville, Chattanooga, and Memphis also received funding. Jubilee Community Arts of Knoxville also received a \$25,000 grant in the Traditional and Folk Arts category.” [Knoxville Metro Pulse, 8/12/09]

**Christ Community Health Services will construct two dental clinics at Memphis Health Centers thanks to Recovery Act funding.** “Christ Community Health Services announced Tuesday morning that it will add dental clinics at two of its health centers with \$1.5 million in federal stimulus money. Work at the Broad Avenue location could begin as early as

October, while renovations at the Hickory Hill location may start in January... Community health centers, such as the ones operated by Christ Community, are serving more people as the ranks of the uninsured and underprivileged rise. Last year, Christ Community logged 95,993 patient visits, including 5,104 for dental services. The dental clinic in Hickory Hill will encompass 3,500 square feet of the community health center there... 'Christ Community understands that oral health is a key component of care for the whole person, but dental care is not easily accessible in some Memphis areas,' said Burt Waller, the organization's executive director. "These funds will enable us to make a significant step in closing that gap." [*Memphis Daily News*, 8/12/09]

**Disbursement of *Recovery Act* money to the Greater Van Buren County-Spencer Chamber of Commerce will foster small businesses.** "U.S. Representative Lincoln Davis, USDA Rural Development Administrator Tammye Trevino and USDA Rural Development Acting State Director Robert Connelly, Jr. today announced an investment of \$5,000 to the Greater Van Buren County-Spencer Chamber of Commerce for small business development in Van Buren County... The Rural Development grant will fund the purchase of needed computer and other equipment that will be used for business development and recruitment. 'Small business is the economic engine of rural communities, creating jobs and helping maintain a healthy, diversified local economy,' said Connelly." [*Cookeville Times*, 8/10/09]

***Recovery Act* revenue directed to replace chlorine sewer disinfection method with ultra violet light, improving worker safety.** "The city of Kingsport plans to use federal stimulus funds to replace the chlorine disinfection process at the sewer plant with an ultraviolet process, something officials say is much safer for workers and the community. Earlier this year, Kingsport applied for \$2.2 million in stimulus funds to cover three bundled water and wastewater projects — stream bank restoration along Mad Branch, pump station improvements and the sewer plant upgrade. This week, Gov. Phil Bredesen announced Kingsport had received the funds through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 and the State Revolving Fund loan program. The projects will be funded with a 20-year, \$1.32 million loan with an interest rate of 2.88 percent and \$880,000 in principal forgiveness that will not have to be repaid. A majority of the money, some \$1.9 million, will go toward replacing the disinfection process at the wastewater treatment plant from chlorine to ultraviolet." [*Kingsport Times-News*, 8/8/09]

**"Structurally deficient" Nashville bridge being improved with *Recovery Act* funds.** "A detour will go into place today on Chestnut Street near Greer Stadium in South Nashville. It is for a \$2 million project to replace an 80-year-old, deteriorated bridge that crosses the CSX railroad tracks near the intersection of Hagan and Chestnut. The Chestnut Street Bridge is classified as in poor condition. The bridge has been placed on the state's list of structurally deficient bridges. Among the deficiencies cited in the bridge's latest inspection are widespread areas of concrete deterioration with concrete spalls and exposed rebar. The project is funded through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act and is to be completed by June 30, 2010." [*Nashville Tennessean*, 8/5/09]

**The Tennessee Department of Human Services awarded *Recovery Act* funds to early childhood education for disadvantaged families.** "Child care is a luxury that many parents are not able to afford. Help, however, is on the way with new government funding. The Tennessee Department of Human Services has received funding for the Child Care Development Fund through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act. The stimulus money will be designated for low-income working families who are not eligible for existing child care assistance categories, such as Families First and Tennessee's Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF) program.... DHS officials anticipate it will be able to serve 7,000 children." [*Maryville Daily Times*, 8/3/09]

**Using *Recovery Act* grants to fund early childhood education “among the smartest investments” possible, “money well spent.”** “Devoting resources to the early education of children is among the smartest investments we could make in this community and this state. It is money well spent from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act. Parents who need training in how to stimulate brain cell development of children from the toddler stage on up must be given that training. Incentives must be available for teachers willing to specialize in the field of early childhood education. For Memphis to prosper – indeed, for the entire metro area to live up to its potential – the development of an educated workforce, ready to take on the challenges of the 21st Century workplace, is essential. Tennessee is among at least 40 states that offer state-supported pre-kindergarten, and that number is growing as the number of low-skill jobs that provide enough wages to support a family and a middle-class lifestyle decrease. Education is simply growing in importance as a gateway to a better life.” [*Memphis Commercial Appeal*, Editorial, 8/2/09]

**Over 12,000 young people in Tennessee scheduled receive summer jobs due to *Recovery Act* funding.** “After weeks of looking for retail work, she ended up landing an entirely different gig – blowing up balloons and sorting snacks at a county-run day care in Mt. Juliet. Her temporary job was one of thousands created for young, unemployed people through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act. By the end of the summer, the state will have used almost \$25 million in stimulus dollars to put more than 12,000 young people to work for the government, private businesses and nonprofit organizations across Tennessee. The employment boost comes at a time when many people, regardless of their age, are struggling to find work.” [*Tennessean*, 7/27/09]

**18 affordable housing projects were undertaken using Community Development Block Grants fuelled by *Recovery Act* money.** “Gov. Phil Bredesen and Economic and Community Development Commissioner Matt Kisber awarded more than \$7 million in Community Development Block Grants as part of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act. The *Recovery Act* dollars will fund 18 additional projects submitted in the 2008 CDBG funding cycle for community livability, water and sewer and housing rehabilitation, according to a news release.” [*Jackson Sun*, 7/22/09]

***Recovery Act* yielding palpable benefits across state of Tennessee in many forms, Says Governor’s Deputy John Morgan.** “Eligible Tennesseans will receive the Making Work Pay tax credit, while others are taking advantage of the First Time Home Buyer tax credit and deductions for the purchase of new vehicles. The Earned Income Tax Credit increases temporarily under the recovery act for qualifying families with three or more children. An additional child tax credit and the American Opportunity Credit for college also help parents. One of the act's goals is to provide direct benefits to help families whose lives have been upended by the economic crisis. Tennesseans receiving supplemental nutritional assistance received an automatic 13.6 percent increase in benefits to help feed their families. Those receiving Social Security, Supplemental Security Income and veterans benefits received a one-time \$250 supplement, and unemployment insurance benefits were automatically increased \$25 per week. In turn, most of these dollars are spent in the recipient's local community”... State agencies are successfully implementing a vast array of recovery act programs, from worker training and education to road and water infrastructure improvement projects, and planning now for implementation of those yet to come through the two-year period the recovery act will span.” [*Nashville Tennessean*, 7/21/09]

**In excess of 190 *Recovery Act*-funded projects contracted by the Tennessee DOT.** “The Tennessee Department of Transportation has awarded a total of 190 road projects totaling

\$429.7 million from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act and will award the final bids in August. TDOT has received \$572.7 million in stimulus funds for highway and bridge projects throughout Tennessee.” Governor Bredesen: “TDOT has moved very quickly to get Recovery Act funds under contract and projects underway to create and retain jobs for Tennesseans. Without the Recovery Act funds, many of these projects would not have been built or would have been delayed.” [Nashville Business Journal, 7/17/09]

**Recovery Act funds granted to the Columbus school system to replace 30 outdated school buses and update 22, reducing emissions.** “The city of Columbus has been awarded a \$1.4 million federal grant to replace and upgrade old school buses to help reduce diesel pollution. The funding was made available through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act. The Environmental Protection Agency said Thursday in a news release that the grant will fund the replacement of 30 old Columbus school buses and the installation of direct fire heating units in 22 other buses. Officials say the grant is designed to help reduce emissions.” [Associated Press, 7/17/09]

**Memphis will receive Recovery Act funds to help people facing a sudden financial crisis that could lead to homelessness.** “Memphis will receive \$3,329,685 from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) to help re-house families who fall into homelessness, or prevent them from becoming homeless in the first place. The funding is provided through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) to help persons and families facing a sudden financial crisis that could lead to homelessness.” Congressman Cohen: “Memphis is one of the hardest hit cities in the nation as a result of the foreclosure crisis and these funds are going to make a real difference for those families facing the devastating prospect of losing the roof over their heads and having to live in a shelter – or worse, living on the streets. These federal funds are the textbook example of how the ARRA is reinvesting in our communities and helping struggling families to recover from this economic crisis.” [Press Release – Representative Steve Cohen, 7/14/09]

**Great Smoky Mountain National Park enacted first of many infrastructure projects using Recovery Act allocations.** “Great Smoky Mountains National Park expects this summer to award the first round of construction contracts using the \$64 million the park received under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act. The park hopes to award the contracts by late August so work can begin right after Labor Day. The first phase of construction will use \$7.5 million of the stimulus package to repave Cosby Campground, improve parking at the Sinks, and upgrade 34 buildings and five comfort stations throughout the park. The national park already is using \$1.2 million of the federal funding to hire temporary park employees to improve 32 miles of eroded horse trails in Tennessee and North Carolina, and to restore more than 60 historic cemeteries.” [Knoxville News Sentinel, 7/14/09]

**With Recovery Act dollars, non-profit United Neighborhood Health Services gained ability to open 3 new clinics and renovate homeless-oriented facility in downtown Nashville.** “The federal stimulus has meant about \$2 million in new funding so far this year for United Neighborhood Health Services. With the most recent round of funding through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009, the private network of neighborhood health centers has received \$1.05 million, the nonprofit announced today. Earlier this year, United Neighborhood received \$973,593 in stimulus funds, which it’s using to support a two-year project to expand primary health services with three new clinic sites in Nashville. United Neighborhood Health Services will use the money from the U.S. Department of Health Resources and Services Administration to renovate its downtown clinic, which serves the homeless, expand its Main Street Clinic and upstate its electronic medical records network.” [Nashville Business Journal, 7/13/09]



**Recovery Act grant allowed for fuel efficiency research collaboration between Knox Area Transit system and other entities; also funded purchase of 20 hybrid buses.** “An East Tennessee grocery company, the Knox Area Transit system and the Oak Ridge National Laboratory are working together to improve fuel efficiency. The Knoxville News Sentinel reports that researchers have installed data collection systems on buses and trucks to gather many types of information during the one-year study. Three KAT buses and three of H.T. Hackney Co.'s medium-duty trucks have been fitted with \$35,000 in equipment to measure 60 variables with the buses and about 80 with the trucks.” [Associated Press, 7/13/09]

**Recovery Act clean energy awards make Tennessee a prospective leader in green jobs; resources have blunted job loss and enhanced green industries across the board.** “There is a great deal of discussion in the news right now about the need to create green jobs. On a national scale, more than \$150 billion in stimulus funding is available for green-related industry. Of that, Nashville could see as much as \$185 million in investments and 10,407 new green-related jobs per year, according to a recent study released on behalf of the National Resource Defense Council.” [Nashville Tennessean (Editorial), 7/11/09]

**Millington Naval Support Center scheduled to gain criminal investigative service HQ, children’s development center, and more with Recovery Act award.** “The Naval Support Activity Center in Millington will be the site of a nearly \$10 million project that will include a 33,000-square-foot children’s development center, new Naval Criminal Investigative Service headquarters and a facility for the Navy band. The project, which will be built by Nashville-based Sherrick Construction, Inc., and designed by Memphis-based Archimania, was originally planned for 2014, but the Navy was asked by the federal government for ‘shovel-ready’ projects that could be pushed forward with funding from the American Reinvestment and Recovery Act.” [Memphis Business Journal, 7/10/09]

**Over 400 employees at Trane and Robert Bosch LLC received specific job training with resources from Recovery Act.** “Six companies within the Clarksville-based WorkForce Essentials service area, including two in Montgomery County, have received large sums of funding from state government for targeted and focused job training in these tough economic times. Gov. Phil Bredesen and Tennessee Department of Labor & Workforce Development Commissioner James Neeley have awarded \$100,000 each to Trane and Robert Bosch LLC, both leading manufacturers in Clarksville. The grant, which is funded by the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009, will provide training to 259 Trane employees and 171 at Bosch.” [Clarksville Leaf Chronicle, 7/9/09]

**\$326,550 in Recovery Act money allocated to 13 arts organizations across Tennessee.** “Governor Phil Bredesen and the Tennessee Arts Commission have announced the recipients of Investing in Tennessee grant awards, including \$77,000 set aside for organizations in Chattanooga. These funds provide federal assistance for the sole purpose of protecting and preserving jobs in the nonprofit arts sector that are threatened by the current economic downturn. The funds are available as a result of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009, through the National Endowment for the Arts and the Southern Arts Federation.” Governor Bredesen: “Tennesseans value the arts, not only for personal enrichment and a better quality of life, but also for the economic impact they bring to communities across the state. Like many other segments of our economy, the arts have struggled during these tough economic times. These grants will allow us to speed economic recovery by saving jobs, including jobs in our highly-regarded arts industry where Tennesseans make immeasurable contributions to their communities, our children’s education, and our state’s culture.” [Chattanooga, 7/8/09]

**Tennessee 9<sup>th</sup> Congressional District gained \$14,426,201 *Recovery Act* allotment for housing programs, medical research, and arts community jobs.** “\$14,426,201 in federal funding has been awarded to the Ninth Congressional District by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services and the National Endowment for the Arts. The federal funding will be used to create housing, help qualified families with affordable housing, fund homelessness programs, train medical professionals, undertake important genetic research, and preserve jobs in the arts community.” Rep. Cohen: “Whether it’s creating good paying construction jobs that will help to fix up our neighborhoods, attracting the best and brightest doctors and scientists to Memphis, or preserving jobs that promote our district’s rich cultural heritage, this infusion of federal funding puts us squarely on the path of economic recovery.” [[Press Release – U.S. Representative Steve Cohen](#), 7/7/09]

***Recovery Act* permits Governor Bredesen to maintain extended benefits program for the unemployed in Tennessee.** “Governor Phil Bredesen is extending unemployment benefits with funding from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act. The Tennessee Extended Benefits Program adds a maximum of 20 weeks of benefits for claimants who exhausted their emergency unemployment compensation benefits on or after February 28, 2009.” [[WBIR – NBC](#), 7/1/09]

**Tennessee DOT to begin equipping truck stops electrification technology with *Recovery Act* funding.** “The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency gave a \$2 million American Reinvestment and Recovery Act discretionary grant to the Tennessee Department of Transportation to begin equipping truck stops across the state with truck stop electrification technology. Truck stop electrification systems provide heating and cooling for sleeper cab compartments and power to run electrical appliances, such as computers and microwaves. TEE systems also allow trucks outfitted with on-board equipment to plug in to operate necessary systems without idling the engine... The project will also save trucking companies the cost of fuel that would be used when idling. The EPA estimates that annual fuel savings could exceed \$3,240 per truck.” [*Memphis Business Journal*, 6/29/09]

**University of Tennessee Health Science Center and University of Memphis Math Department apportioned \$1.1 million in *Recovery Act* funds.** Grants to help combat tuberculosis and tularemia and develop graph theory. [*Memphis Daily News*, 6/5/09]

***Recovery Act* Funds will create 650 jobs for Tennessee teens this summer.** As of Wednesday, there are already 100 teens across the area working at various job sites. Because of the economic stimulus program, about 650 teens will be able to earn a living this summer. [*WATE.com*, 6/4/09]

**Trade Adjustment Assistance program augmented by *Recovery Act*, blunting impact of overseas job loss in Tennessee.** Covered workers are able to qualify for unemployment checks for up to three years — or nearly twice as long as the typical worker who isn't affected by ‘off-shoring’ or the shift of jobs to foreign countries. Others get help paying health insurance costs. Also, starting in May, laid-off white-collar workers in service industries such as accounting, software development, auto-parts design and call center operations became eligible for the more generous benefits, a move that could add more workers to the rolls as unemployment in Tennessee flirts with the 10 percent level, a full percentage point above the U.S. rate.” [*Tennessean*, 6/2/09]

**More than 3,000 teenagers benefit from summer youth employment program created and sustained by \$4.9 million *Recovery Act* dollars.** Funds will enable an

additional 2,300 applicants to join the 750 youths the city provides for each year. [Memphis Commercial Appeal, 6/2/09]

**Recovery Act will fund Arlington Road repaving.** City will open bidding for contracts in July. [Memphis Business Journal, 5/29/09]

**City of Bartlett will use Recovery Act funding for six different road improvement projects.** [Memphis Business Journal, 5/29/09]

**Tennessee will use Recovery Act to stabilize school districts' budgets, will save jobs.** At one point the University of Tennessee system was considering cutting 700 temporary faculty members. [Tennessean, 5/27/09]

**Chattanooga National Military Park has already started spending Recovery Act funds to hire laborers and contractors.** Workers focused on improvements and trail repairs previously deferred due to budget shortage. [Chattanooga Times Free Press, 5/26/09]

**New small business loan parameters under Recovery Act significantly increase small business utilization in Chattanooga.** [Chattanooga Times Free Press, 5/26/09]

**Chickamauga and Chattanooga Military Park receives \$380,000 in Recovery Act funds for maintenance.** "There's no question that the end result of the work benefits the end users, our visitors." [Chattanooga Times Free Press, 5/26/09]

**Governor Bredesen: fiscal stabilization Recovery Act funds "will help Tennessee tremendously in a time of very difficult and challenging budgets."** [The Chattanooga, 5/20/09]

**Recovery Act funding allowed the Department of Energy to hire 87 new employees to work at the Oak Ridge Transuranic Waste Processing Center.** Many of the new employees came from non-nuclear businesses that experienced recent layoffs. [The Oak Ridger, 5/19/09]

**Perry County, which has 25 percent unemployment, will see 300 new jobs and a summer youth employment program thanks to the Recovery Act.** "We've had situations (in families) where both mother and father are out of work.' Along with the 300 new jobs, up to 200 Perry County residents between the ages of 14 and 24 will be eligible for the Summer Youth Employment Program." [Associated Press, 5/15/09]

**Recovery Act funding will create 1,500 jobs in and around Great Smoky National Park.** "You can't get much closer to the beauty of the Great Smoky Mountains National Park than astride one of the mounts from Kenny Kear's stables. 'The people who come here, do because they want to have an intimate contact with this park,' Kears says. 'There are about 600 miles of horseback riding trail. To keep the trails passable, where you can do it safely, it does require labor and it is intensive and it requires money to do that.' "Right after Memorial Day, we'll be putting our trail crews to work," says park Deputy Superintendent Kevin Fitzgerald. The federal stimulus plan calls for spending \$1.2 million to restore horse and walking trails. Another \$259,000 goes toward roof repairs and paint. The park will spend \$4 million on 'creature comforts': better restrooms. The bulk of the spending will go toward roads; \$25 million..." [WVLT, 5/14/09]

**Great Smokey Mountains National Park will receive Recovery Act funds for road work and building improvements.** Projects that are expected to create up to 1,500 private-sector jobs. [Knoxville News Sentinel, 5/14/09]

**Governor announces plans to build *Recovery Act*-funded solar power generation facility, solar research institute.** “Gov. Phil Bredesen is announcing plans for Tennessee to spend \$62 million in federal stimulus money on a solar power generation facility near Brownsville and his proposed solar research institute at Oak Ridge. The Democratic governor says the five megawatt solar plant in Haywood County would be among the largest in the eastern United States. [WKRG News, 5/13/09]

***Recovery Act* funds providing \$25 million to help provide 12,000 jobs to disadvantaged youths in Tennessee.** [Leaf Chronicle, 5/7/09]